GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3210
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
PASSPORTS TO TRUCK OPERATORS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal under consideration to issue passports to truck operators to operate across the borders ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to establish a "Land Ports Authority of India" and to open more check posts for border trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these proposals are likely to come into effect?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a)-(b) A proposal has been received for issue of passports to truck drivers operating between India and Bangladesh for trade.

(c)-(e) The Government have approved, 'in principle', setting up of a Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI). The Government have also approved setting up of 13 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) at India-Nepal, India-Pakistan, India-Bangladesh and India-Myanmar borders (details are given in Annexure) for trade and other purposes. The four ICPs in Priority I are expected to be established in 18-24 months and 9 ICPs in Priority II thereafter with a timeframe of 3 years.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (C) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3210 REGARDING 'PASSPORTS TO TRUCK OPERATORS' FOR ANSWER ON 21.03.2007

Location and estimated cost of Integrated Check Posts(ICPs)

Priority-I

Sl.No.	Location	State	Border	Estimated Cost (in Rs crore)
1.	Petrapole	West Bengal	India-Bangladesh	87
2.	Moreh	Manipur	India-Myanmar	70
3.	Raxaul	Bihar	India-Nepal	100
4.	Wagah	Punjab	India-Pakistan	85
Total Priority-I				342

Priority-II

Sl.No.	Location	State	Border	Estimated Cost (in Rs. crore)
1.	Hili	West Bengal	India-Bangladesh	78

2.	Chandrabangha	West Bengal	India-Bangladesh	64
3.	Sutarkhandi	Assam	India-Bangladesh	16
4.	Dawki	Meghalaya	India-Bangladesh	50
5.	Akhaura	Tripura	India-Bangladesh	60
6.	Kawarpuchiah	Mizoram	India-Bangladesh	27
7	Jogbani	Bihar	India-Nepal	34
8.	Sunauli	Uttar Pradesh	India-Nepal	34
9.	Rupaidiha/ Nepalganj road	Uttar Pradesh	India-Nepal	29
Total Priority-II				392